

### Remarks

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration of the outstanding office action is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4, 6-13, and 15-21 remain in this application. Claims 1, 4, 6 and 7 have been amended. Claim 3 has been cancelled along with previously cancelled claims 2, 5, and 14.

### **Allowed Claims/Subject Matter**

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 13 and 15-21, and further that the Examiner has indicated the subject matter of claims 3, 4, 6, 7, and 10-12 are patentable and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, independent claim 1 has been amended such that it now contains the limitation of deleted claim 3. It is thereby submitted that amended claim 1 is in proper condition for allowance. Claims 4, 7, and 8-12 all depend from amended claim 1 and are therefore also in condition for allowance.

Correspondingly, independent claim 6 has been amended such that it now contains all the limitations of original claim 1 in addition to the limitations of claim 6. It is thereby submitted that amended claim 6 is in proper condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this case is in condition for allowance. Such allowance is earnestly solicited.

### **Conclusion**

Based upon the above amendments, remarks, and papers of record, Applicant believes the pending claims of the above-captioned application are in allowable form and patentable over the prior art of record. Applicant respectfully

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: SP03-167  
SERIAL NO. 10/750,474  
FILED: DECEMBER 31, 2003  
EXAMINER: DAVID A. REDDING  
GROUP ART UNIT: 1744  
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requests reconsideration of the pending claims 1, 4, 6-13, and 15-21 and a prompt Notice of Allowance thereon.

Applicant believes that no extension of time is necessary to make this Response timely. Should Applicant be in error, Applicant respectfully requests that the Office grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as necessary to make this Reply timely, and hereby authorizes the Office to charge any necessary fee or surcharge with respect to said time extension to the deposit account of the undersigned firm of attorneys, Deposit Account 03-3325.

Please direct any questions or comments to Thomas R. Beall at 3921.

Respectfully submitted,

CORNING INCORPORATED



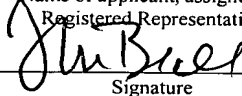
Thomas R. Beall  
Registration No. 40,424  
Corning Incorporated  
Patent Department  
Mail Stop SP-TI-03-1  
Corning, NY 14831

Date: July 22, 2005

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